

# ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (EA/EIS)

## Part I. Proposed Action Description

Applicant/Contact Name & Address: Stillwater Mining Company, PO Box 1330 Columbus, MT 59019; USDA Forest Service 6811 US Hwy 212 Red Lodge, MT 59068

Type of Action: Application for Beneficial Water Use Permit 43C 30109578

Location Affected by Action: Sections 12 and 14 T5S R14E, Sweet Grass County

Narrative Summary of Proposed Action: The Applicant proposes to divert water from the West Fork of the Stillwater River in NENESW Section 12 and NENENE Section 14, Sweet Grass County using a pump from May 1 to October 31. The Applicant proposes to pump up to 25 GPM from May 1 to November 30 and up to 23.5 AF volume for industrial use. The Applicant proposes drilling for mineral exploration in Section 12, T5S, R14E, Sweet Grass County. The drilling rig requires a flow rate of 25 GPM.

## Part II. Existing Environmental Review Information

Title: Environmental Assessment for Stillwater Mining Company's Plan of Operations for Mineral Exploration, Iron Creek and West Fork of the Stillwater River

Publication Date: January, 2017

Lead Agency: United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Location Where Interested Parties Can View or Obtain the Document:

[http://a123.g.akamai.net/7/123/11558/abc123/forestservice.download.akamai.com/11558/www/nepa/103750\\_FSPLT3\\_3935684.pdf](http://a123.g.akamai.net/7/123/11558/abc123/forestservice.download.akamai.com/11558/www/nepa/103750_FSPLT3_3935684.pdf)

## Part III. Criteria for Adopting Existing Environmental Review

- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No Does the existing environmental review cover an action paralleling or closely related to the proposed action?
- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No Is the information in the existing environmental review accurate and clearly presented?
- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No Is the information in the existing environmental review applicable to the action being considered?
- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No Were all appropriate Agencies consulted during preparation of the existing environmental review?
- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No Were alternatives to the proposed action evaluated as part of the existing environmental review effort?
- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No Have all of the impacts of the proposed action been accurately identified as part of the existing environmental review?
- ☐\_X\_ Yes ☐\_No If the existing environmental review identifies any significant impacts as a result of the proposed action, will they be mitigated below the level of significance?

## Part IV. Conclusion

If the answers to ALL of the questions listed above are "Yes", the existing environmental review can be considered sufficient to satisfy DNRC's MEPA review responsibilities.

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_X\_ Based on the criteria evaluated in the existing EA, is an EIS required?

Name: Mark Elison

Title: Hydrologist

Date: 3/15/2017

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_